01.25.2022 Veterans Home Weekly Family Updates

Dear Family & Friends -

COVID -19 Update:

The current surge of COVID-19 cases continues to affect us all in Wisconsin. We urge all family members and team members to consider the safest options for all activities and take steps to protect yourselves, particularly if you are planning to visit someone here at the Veterans Home. We are grateful that we can have visitors even when we have cases of COVID-19 on campus, but it takes *all* of us to protect those who live here.

Here is our current COVID-19 information:

- Three team members are confirmed to have COVID-19
- Two team members are suspected to have COVID-19
- One member is suspected to have COVID-19

Current & Cumulative COVID-19 Cases:

Current Active COVID-19 Confirmed Positive:	3 (three employees)
Current Active COVID-19 Suspected Positive:	3 (two employees, one member)
Cumulative COVID-19 Confirmed Positive (since the Pandemic began in March 2020):	104 (twenty-six members, seventy-five employees, three contracted individuals)
Cumulative COVID-19 Suspected Positive (since the Pandemic began in March 2020):	5 (two members, three employees)
Total Recovered (since the Pandemic began in March 2020):	99(twenty-three members, seventy-three employees, three contracted individuals)

Boosters – Recommendation Changes:

As you may know, the timeframe to get your booster has changed from 6 months to 5 months after your Pfizer or Moderna series. <u>Click Here</u> to find out more information about the boosters. <u>Click Here</u> to sign up for your COVID booster or vaccine at a vaccine site near you.

Free Test Kits:

If you are feeling ill, and/or you believe you have been exposed to someone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please get tested. Right now, each household in the US can receive 4 free at-home testing kits. Click here www.usps.com/covidtest to sign up to get these kits delivered to your home. We continue to have enough testing supplies at the Veterans Home to frequently test to identify any new cases of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Plan:

Our comprehensive COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Response Plan is in place to help our team prioritize the health and safety of everyone who lives in and works at the Veterans Home. This plan includes:

- Requiring team members be vaccinated against COVID-19 while encouraging members and families to get the COVID-19 vaccine;
- Utilizing appropriate personal protective equipment, including a well-fitting face covering or mask that covers the mouth and nose;
- Screening and monitoring members, team members, and visitors for symptoms;
- Using alcohol-based hand rub regularly;
- Tracing individuals who come in contact with anyone affected;
- Testing members and team members based on federal and state guidance;
- Quarantining COVID-19 positive members and implementing enhanced infection control measures;
- Advising COVID-19 positive team members to take all appropriate measures;
- Taking environmental safety precautions, such as disinfecting high-touch surfaces and designated visitation areas after each visit;
- Assuring safe congregate dining and group activities with social distancing; and
- Adhering to safe visitation procedures, including maintaining six feet of distance between persons.

Please see our website for our full COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Response Action Plan.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the health and safety of our team members and members.

Best,

Megan M. Corcoran, NHA | Administrator

Wisconsin Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls